

1 **CLAIMS**

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3 1. A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions
4 that perform the following when executed by a computer:

5 receiving a request to perform a media operation with respect to a media
6 file;

7 determining a media provider to which the media file is attributable;
8 assessing if the media provider allows the media operation to be performed
9 with respect to the media file; and

10 performing the requested media operation if allowed by the media provider.

11

12 2. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the determining is
13 performed with the aid of a unique identifier for the media provider that is within
14 the media file.

15

16 3. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the determining is
17 performed by finding a unique identifier associated with the media provider that is
18 within a header of the media file.

19

20 4. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the determining is
21 performed without communication across a communications network.

22

23 5. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the assessing is
24 performed by executing computer code received from the media provider.

1 6. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the assessing is
2 performed by executing a code module received from the media provider and
3 associated with the requested media operation.

4

5 7. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the assessing is
6 performed by calling an API associated with a code module, wherein the code
7 module is received from the media provider and associated with the requested
8 media operation.

9

10 8. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the assessing is
11 performed without communication across a communications network.

12

13 9. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising
14 communicating with the media provider if the media operation is not allowed by
15 the media provider.

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17 10. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising
18 communicating with the media provider if the media operation is not allowed by
19 the media provider and presenting options to a user for gaining allowance from the
20 media provider.

21

22 11. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the receiving is
23 through a user interface and further comprising communicating with the media
24 provider if the media operation is not allowed by the media provider and

1 presenting options to a user through the user interface for gaining allowance from
2 the media provider.

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4 12. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the media operation
5 includes downloading the media file to a portable media playing device.

6

7 13. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the media operation
8 includes recording the media file onto a permanent medium.

9

10 14. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the media operation
11 includes recording the media file onto a compact disk.

12

13 15. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the media operation
14 includes recording the media file onto a digital video disk.

15

16 16. A system comprising:

17 a media player; and
18 a media operation integrator in communication with the media player and
19 capable of receiving, from one of multiple remote media providers, instructions to
20 customize the media player,
21 wherein the media player is capable of following the instructions.

22

23 17. The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is configured to follow
24 the instructions after the media player receives a request to provide an operation

1 with respect to a media file that is attributable to the remote media provider that
2 provided the instructions.

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4 18. The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is configured to play or
5 not play a media file attributable to the remote media provider based on the
6 instructions from the remote media provider.

7

8 19. The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is configured to record
9 or not record onto a permanent medium a media file attributable to the remote
10 media provider based on the instructions from the remote media provider.

11

12 20. The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is configured to
13 download or not download onto a portable device a media file attributable to the
14 remote media provider based on the instructions from the remote media provider.

15

16 21. The system of claim 16, further comprising a user interface customizable
17 by the media player, wherein the instructions include altering the user interface.

18

19 22. The system of claim 16, further comprising a registry database of remote
20 media providers from which instructions can be received, wherein the media
21 operation integrator is capable of refusing the instructions if the remote media
22 provider is not included in the registry database.

23

24 23. The system of claim 16, wherein the instructions include computer code
25 executable at request of the media player.

1
2 **24.** The system of claim 16, further comprising a registry database of remote
3 media providers from which instructions can be received, wherein the registry
4 database is capable of being altered.

5
6 **25.** The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is capable of building a
7 record of a number of times an operation is performed by the media player with
8 respect to a media file.

9
10 **26.** The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is capable of building a
11 record of a number of times an operation is performed by the media player with
12 respect to a media file and the media operation integrator is further capable of
13 communicating the record to the remote media provider to which the media file is
14 attributable.

15
16 **27.** The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is capable of building a
17 record of a number of times the media player plays a media file and
18 communicating the record to the remote media provider to which the media file is
19 attributable.

20
21 **28.** A system comprising:
22 a media player; and
23 a code module received from a remote media provider,

1 wherein the media player is configured to call the code module when it
2 receives a request to perform an operation with respect to a media file attributable
3 to the remote media provider.

4

5 **29.** The system of claim 28, wherein the media player is further configured to
6 call the code module using one or more APIs.

7

8 **30.** The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions
9 governing how the media player is to display a name for the remote media
10 provider.

11

12 **31.** The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions
13 governing how the media player is to display a name for the media file.

14

15 **32.** The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions
16 governing whether or not the media player is to perform the operation.

17

18 **33.** The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions
19 governing whether or not the media player is to perform the operation, and the
20 operation includes playing the media file.

21

22 **34.** The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions
23 governing whether or not the media player is to perform the operation, and the
24 operation includes copying the media file onto a permanent medium.

1 35. The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions
2 governing whether or not the media player is to perform the operation, and the
3 operation includes copying the media file onto a temporary medium.

4

5 36. The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions
6 governing how the media player is to structure a user interface to show a user that
7 it is performing the operation.

8

9 37. The system of claim 28, further comprising:
10 a second code module received from a second remote media provider, and
11 wherein the media player is further configured to call the second code
12 module when it receives a second request to perform a second operation with
13 respect to a second media file attributable to the second remote media provider.

14

15 38. The system of claim 28, further comprising:
16 a second code module received from a second remote media provider, and
17 wherein the media player is further configured to indicate to a user that:
18 the media file is attributable to the remote media provider; and
19 one or more second media files received from the second remote
20 media provider are attributable to the second remote media provider.

21

22 39. A method comprising:
23 receiving input into a media player's user interface to gain access to a
24 remote media provider;

1 enabling the remote media provider to present a set of media operations
2 within the user interface;
3 enabling selection of one of the media operations through the user interface;
4 and
5 performing the selected media operation.

6

7 **40.** The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes
8 downloading a media file, and further comprising integrating the media file into a
9 media library.

10

11 **41.** The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes
12 downloading a media file, and further comprising saving the media file in a folder
13 based on metadata associated with the media file.

14

15 **42.** The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes
16 downloading a media file.

17

18 **43.** The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes
19 downloading a media file and further comprising:
20 receiving metadata with respect to the media file; and
21 renaming the media file based on the metadata.

22

23 **44.** The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes
24 playing a media file.

1 **45.** The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes
2 recording a media file.

3

4 **46.** The method of claim 39, wherein the enabling the remote media provider
5 includes presenting a media provider user interface within the media player user
6 interface.

7

8 **47.** The method of claim 39, wherein the enabling the remote media provider
9 includes presenting a webpage of the remote media provider within the media
10 player user interface.

11

12 **48.** A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions
13 that perform the following when executed by a computer:

14 receiving a media file;
15 locating metadata associated with the media file; and
16 storing the media file according to the metadata.

17

18 **49.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes
19 saving the media file in a folder named after an author of the media file.

20

21 **50.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes
22 saving the media file in a folder named after an author of the media file and a
23 subfolder named after an album title of the media file.

1 **51.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes
2 saving the media file in a folder named after an author of the media file, a
3 subfolder named after an album title of the media file, and a sub-subfolder named
4 after a track name of the media file.

5
6 **52.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes
7 saving the media file with a name associated with the metadata.

8
9 **53.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes
10 adding a link to the media file in a media library.

11
12 **54.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing is
13 performed immediately after the receiving and without user interaction.

14
15 **55.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein if the receiving is
16 interrupted, further comprising automatically restarting the receiving.

17
18 **56.** A user interface comprising:

19 a first graphical interface configured to enable a user to select a remote
20 media provider from multiple remote media providers;

21 a second graphical interface configured to enable the user to select a media
22 file presented by the remote media provider; and

23 a visual space configured to render the media file.

1 **57.** The user interface of claim 56, wherein the second graphical interface is
2 tailored to the selected media provider.

3
4 **58.** The user interface of claim 56, wherein the second graphical interface is
5 tailored to the selected media provider and is enclosed within the first graphical
6 interface.

7
8 **59.** The user interface of claim 56, wherein the second graphical interface is
9 generated with a webpage from the selected media provider.

10
11 **60.** A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions
12 that perform the following when executed by a computer:

13 receiving a code module from a remote media provider;
14 receiving a request to perform a media operation; and
15 executing the code module to determine whether or not the requested media
16 operation is allowable or not allowable.

17
18 **61.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the code module is
19 callable with an API.

20
21 **62.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:
22 receiving a request to integrate the remote media provider into a media
23 player; and
24 requesting the code module from the remote media provider.

1 **63.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein a media player
2 application receives the code module, receives the request to perform the media
3 operation, and performs the media operation if the requested media operation is
4 allowable.
5

6 **64.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising altering a
7 media player application's user interface to include a control enabling a user to
8 select to be connected to the remote media provider.
9

10 **65.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising altering a
11 media player application's user interface to include a webpage of the remote
12 media provider.
13

14 **66.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:
15 altering a media player application's user interface to include a web page of
16 the remote media provider; and
17 enabling a user to interact with the remote media provider through the
18 media player application's user interface.
19

20 **67.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:
21 receiving a second code module;
22 receiving a third code module; and
23 receiving a fourth code module.
24

- 1 68. The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:
2 receiving a second code module; and
3 performing background processing requested by the remote media provider
4 using the second code module.
- 5
- 6 69. The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:
7 receiving a second code module;
8 performing background processing requested by the remote media provider;
9 and
10 communicating a result of the background processing to the remote media
11 provider.
- 12
- 13 70. The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:
14 receiving a second code module; and
15 compiling a number of times media files attributable to the remote media
16 provider have been played.
- 17
- 18 71. The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:
19 receiving a second code module; and
20 determining a license status with respect to a media file using the second
21 code module; and
22 communicating the status to the remote media provider.
- 23
- 24 72. The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:
25 receiving a second code module; and

1 creating a user interface with aid of executing the second code module.

2

3 73. The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the requested

4 operation is playing a media file.

5

6 74. The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the requested

7 operation is recording a media file onto a portable media-playing device.

8

9 75. The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the requested

10 operation is recording a media file onto a portable media-playing device.

11

12 76. The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the requested

13 operation is recording a media file onto a permanent medium.

14

15 77. A method comprising:

16 receiving first instructions from a first remote media provider;

17 receiving second instructions from a second remote media provider; and

18 tailoring a media player to conform to the first instructions and the second

19 instructions.

20

21 78. The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes altering a user

22 interface of the media player.

1 **79.** The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes altering a visual
2 space dedicated to the media player by incorporating a media-control module
3 within the media player that generates a user interface within the visual space.

4

5 **80.** The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes adding a name for
6 the first remote media provider to a media provider selection screen of a user
7 interface of the media player.

8

9 **81.** The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes adding a name for
10 the second remote media provider to a media provider selection screen of a user
11 interface of the media player.

12

13 **82.** The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes adding a selection
14 control enabling a user to select to be connected to a URL associated with the first
15 remote media provider.

16

17 **83.** The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes incorporating a
18 webpage associated with the first remote media provider into a user interface of
19 the media player.

20

21 **84.** The method of claim 77, further comprising receiving a media file from the
22 first remote media provider, wherein the tailoring includes automatically
23 incorporating a link to the media file into a media file library of the media player.

1 **85.** A method comprising:
2 receiving permission from a remote media provider to play a media file;
3 enabling play of the media file;
4 determining that the permission is expired;
5 communicating with the remote media provider to determine if the
6 permission is renewed; and
7 disabling play of the media file if the permission is not renewed.

8
9 **86.** The method of claim 85, wherein the disabling is not performed until the
10 communicating is performed.

11
12 **87.** The method of claim 85, wherein the determining that the permission is
13 expired is performed in part by recording a number of times that the media file
14 plays.

15
16 **88.** The method of claim 85, wherein the determining that the permission is
17 expired is performed by assessing if a date is passed.

18
19 **89.** The method of claim 85, further comprising playing the media file.

20
21 **90.** The method of claim 85, further comprising:
22 playing the media file; and
23 recording that the media file is played.

1 91. The method of claim 85, further comprising:

2 playing the media file;

3 recording that the media file is played; and

4 communicating the record to the remote media provider.

5
6 92. A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions

7 that perform the following when executed by a computer:

8 receiving, from a media provider across a communications network,
9 permission allowing a use of a media file;

10 recording the permitted use; and

11 performing the permitted use.

12
13 93. The computer-readable medium of claim 92, wherein the permitted use

14 includes playing the media file.

15
16 94. The computer-readable medium of claim 92, wherein the permitted use

17 includes recording the media file on a permanent medium.

18
19 95. The computer-readable medium of claim 92, wherein the permitted use

20 includes recording the media file on a temporary medium.

21
22 96. An apparatus comprising:

23 means for receiving instructions from a remote media provider;

24 means for receiving a request to perform a media operation; and

1 means for determining whether or not the requested media operation is
2 allowable or not allowable based on the instructions.

3
4 **97.** The apparatus of claim 96, further comprising:
5 means for performing the requested media operation.

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